

Webinar Series

Data Use Skills

Featuring Data from Natural History Collections

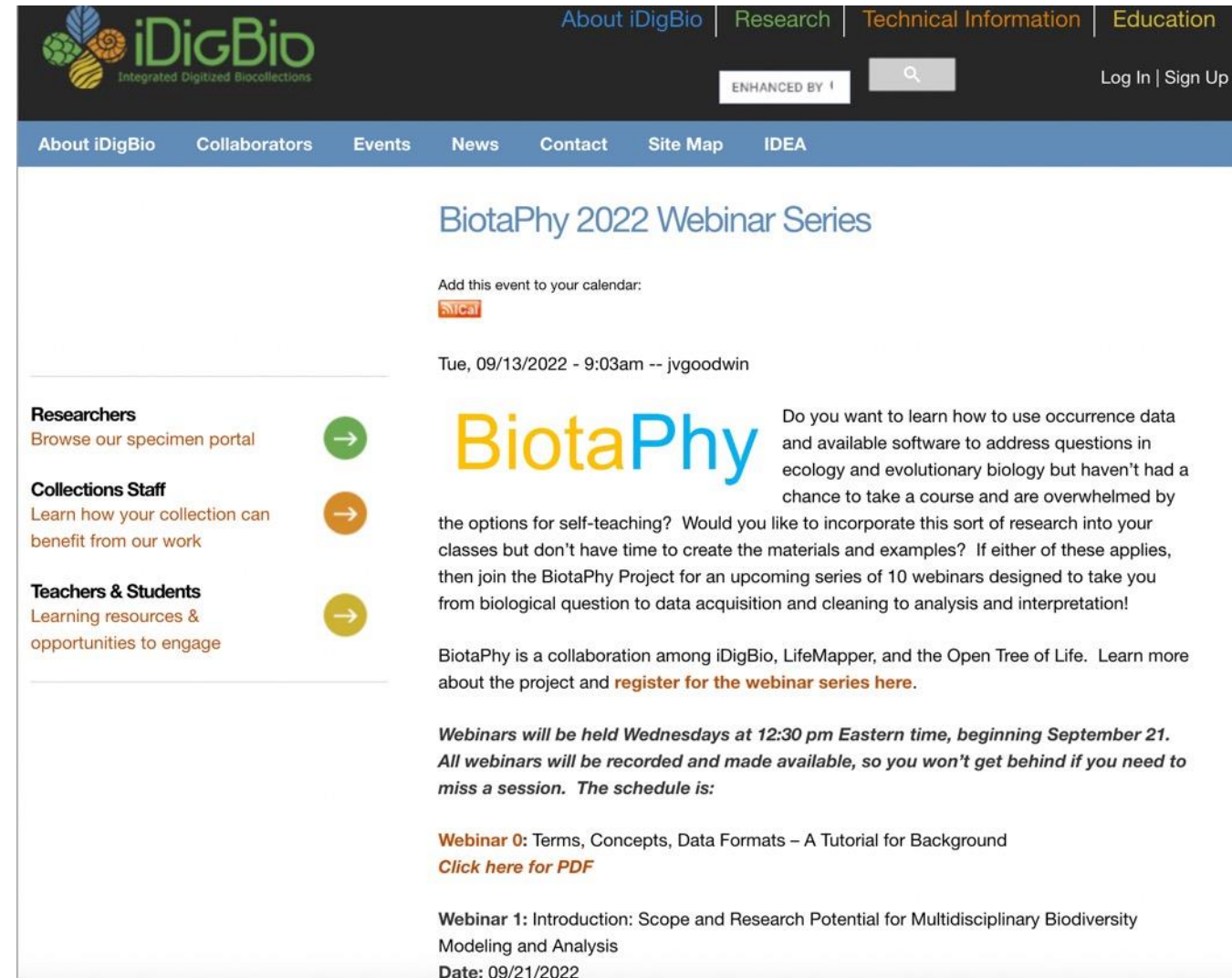
September 21-November 30, 2022

<https://www.idigbio.org/content/biotaphy-2022-webinar-series>

iDigBio:

<https://www.idigbio.org/content/biotaphy-2022-webinar-series>

[iDigBio.org](https://www.idigbio.org)




The screenshot shows the iDigBio website with a navigation bar at the top containing links for About iDigBio, Research, Technical Information, and Education. Below the navigation bar is a search bar and a "Log In | Sign Up" link. The main content area features a blue header with links for About iDigBio, Collaborators, Events, News, Contact, Site Map, and IDEA. The central focus is the "BiotaPhy 2022 Webinar Series" announcement, which includes a calendar icon, the date "Tue, 09/13/2022 - 9:03am -- jvgoodwin", and a large "BiotaPhy" logo. The text describes the webinar series as a collaboration among iDigBio, LifeMapper, and the Open Tree of Life, aimed at providing self-teaching options for researchers, collections staff, and teachers/students. It mentions that webinars will be held on Wednesdays at 12:30 pm Eastern time, starting on September 21, and that all sessions will be recorded and available for on-demand viewing. The schedule for the first two webinars is provided: Webinar 0 (Terms, Concepts, Data Formats – A Tutorial for Background) on September 21, 2022, and Webinar 1 (Introduction: Scope and Research Potential for Multidisciplinary Biodiversity Modeling and Analysis) on September 21, 2022.

Researchers
Browse our specimen portal →

Collections Staff
Learn how your collection can benefit from our work →

Teachers & Students
Learning resources & opportunities to engage →

BiotaPhy 2022 Webinar Series

Add this event to your calendar:


Tue, 09/13/2022 - 9:03am -- jvgoodwin

BiotaPhy

Do you want to learn how to use occurrence data and available software to address questions in ecology and evolutionary biology but haven't had a chance to take a course and are overwhelmed by the options for self-teaching? Would you like to incorporate this sort of research into your classes but don't have time to create the materials and examples? If either of these applies, then join the BiotaPhy Project for an upcoming series of 10 webinars designed to take you from biological question to data acquisition and cleaning to analysis and interpretation!

BiotaPhy is a collaboration among iDigBio, LifeMapper, and the Open Tree of Life. Learn more about the project and [register for the webinar series here](#).

Webinars will be held Wednesdays at 12:30 pm Eastern time, beginning September 21. All webinars will be recorded and made available, so you won't get behind if you need to miss a session. The schedule is:

Webinar 0: Terms, Concepts, Data Formats – A Tutorial for Background
[Click here for PDF](#)

Webinar 1: Introduction: Scope and Research Potential for Multidisciplinary Biodiversity Modeling and Analysis
Date: 09/21/2022

Thank You



**Maria Cortez
Aimee Stewart**

**Jill Goodwin
Gil Nelson**

Webinar 6

Species Distribution Models: What are they? How to Create One?

Create Species Distribution Models using Maxent using occurrence data with the minimum number of points defined in the configuration file or the Rare Species Model algorithm for data without the required minimum number of points.

Biological Objectives:

Species Distribution Models

Fundamental and realized niche

Applications

Technical Objectives :

Input occurrence records, ecoregions, species list

SDMs for multiple taxa at same time

1. **Exploring Concepts:**

Fundamental vs Realized Niche

2. **Demonstrations:**

Applications

3. **Exercises:**

Input occurrence records, ecoregions, species lists; SDMs

4. **Session Summary, Q&A and Discussion**

Species Distribution Modelling

SDM

Species Distribution Modeling (SDM) is also known by several other names, including environmental niche modeling, ecological niche modeling, and habitat modeling. SDM refers to the process of creating mathematical formulas (models) to predict the geographic distribution of species based on where they have been found and the environmental conditions in those locations.

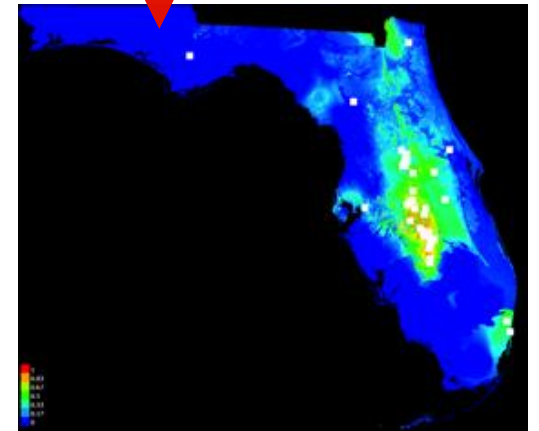
Species Distribution Model

A species distribution model (SDM) is an estimation of potential habitat for a particular species.

Prunus geniculata (scrub plum)



SDM for *Prunus geniculata*

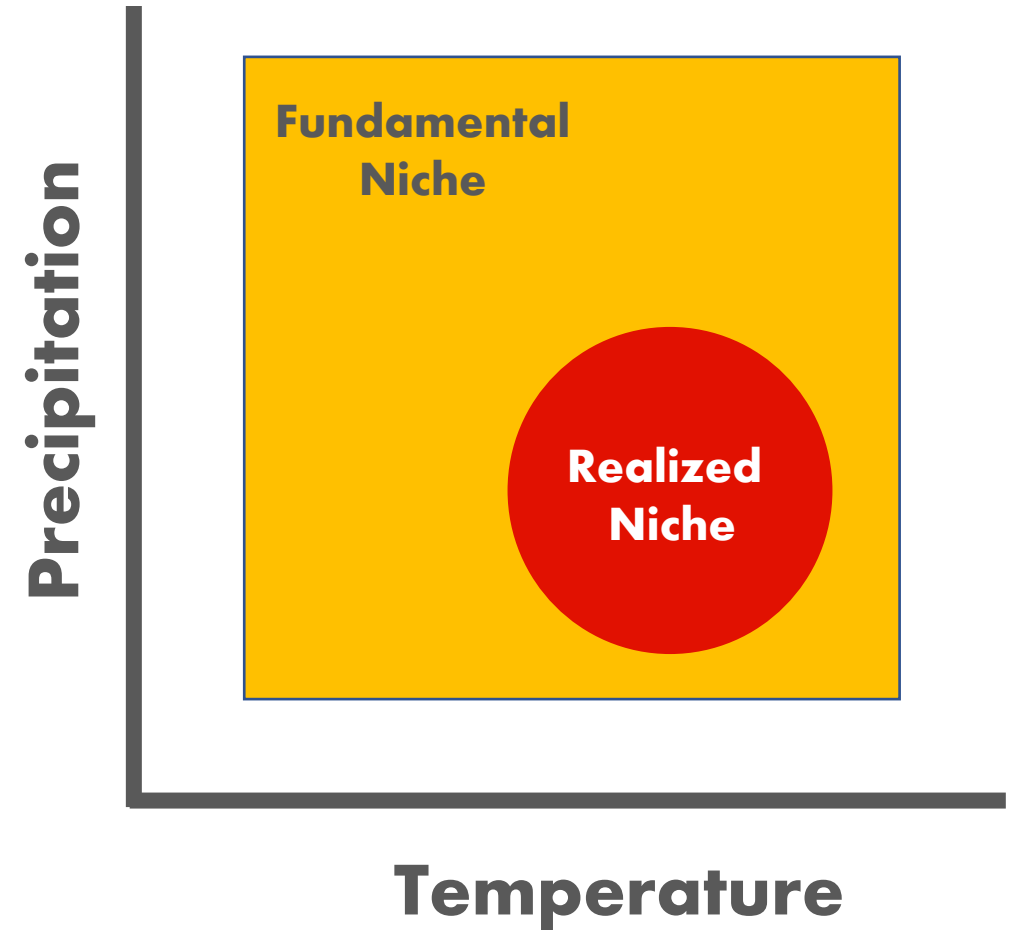


Fundamental Niche

- abiotic conditions a species could potentially occupy in the absence of biotic interactions

Realized Niche

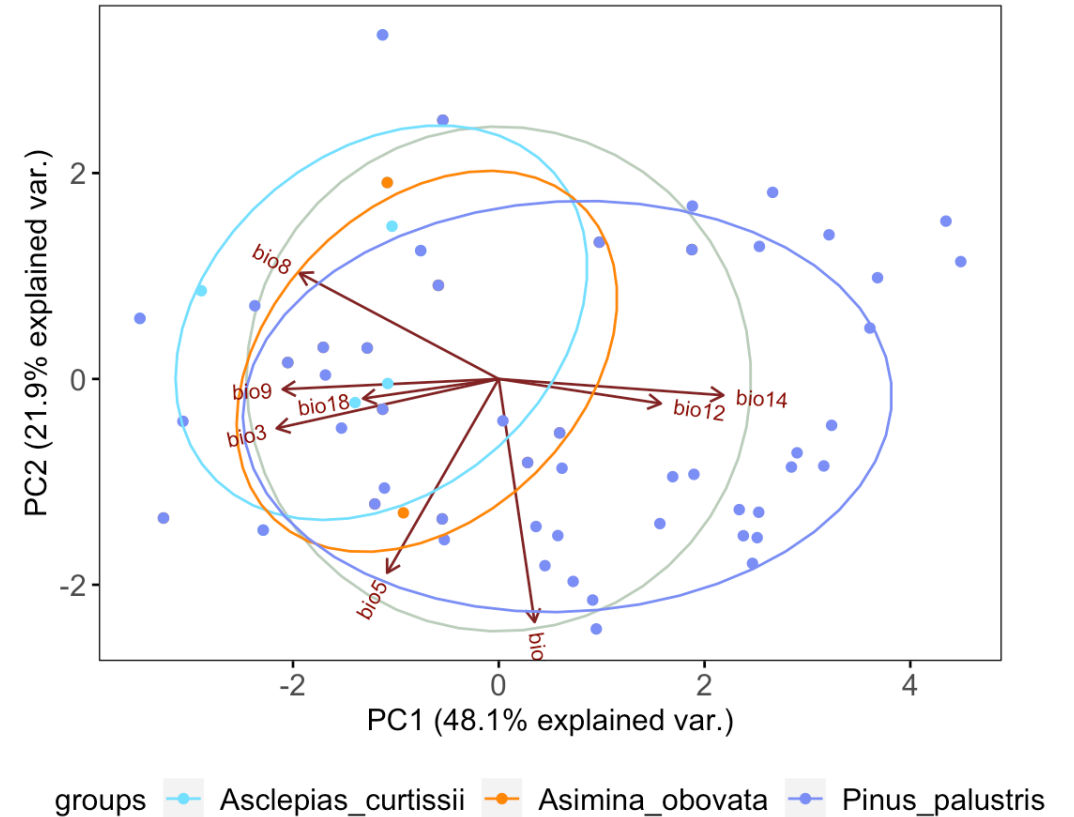
- abiotic conditions that a species can occupy with the presence of biotic interactions



Fundamental Niche

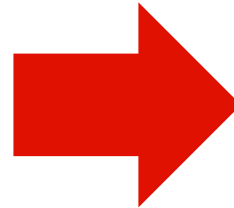
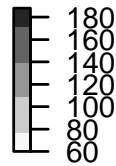
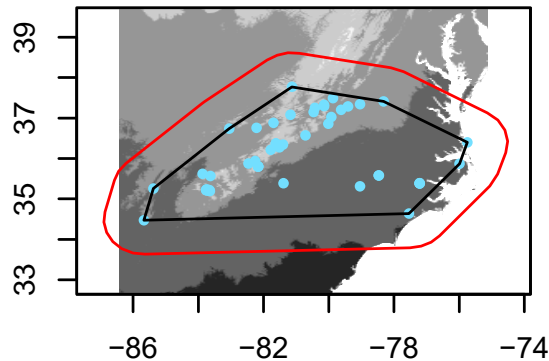
- abiotic conditions a species could potentially occupy in the absence of biotic interactions

“it is defined in multidimensional ecological space (MacArthur 1972).” – Peterson 2001



MaxEnt

- uses the principle of maximum entropy on presence-only data to predict the species' potential geographic distribution (or niche)



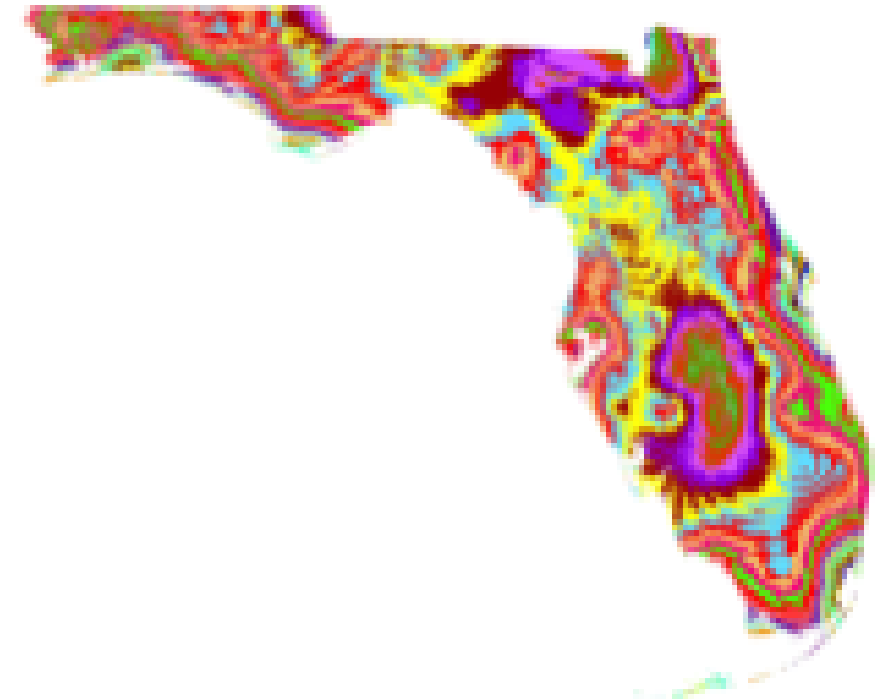
- **Estimate current distribution**
- **Predict future distributions**
- **Infer past distributions**
- **Use as foundation for phylogenetic diversity studies**
- **Niche of polyploid compared to its diploid progenitor(s)**
- **Invasives--projections**

Allen, J., Folk, R.A., P.S. Soltis, D.E. Soltis, R.P. Guralnick. 2019. Biodiversity synthesis across the green branches of the tree of life. *Nature Plants* 5:11-13.

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Allen, J., Folk, R.A., P.S. Soltis, D.E. Soltis, R.P. Guralnick. 2019. Biodiversity synthesis across the green branches of the tree of life. *Nature Plants* 5:11-13.

Present and Future

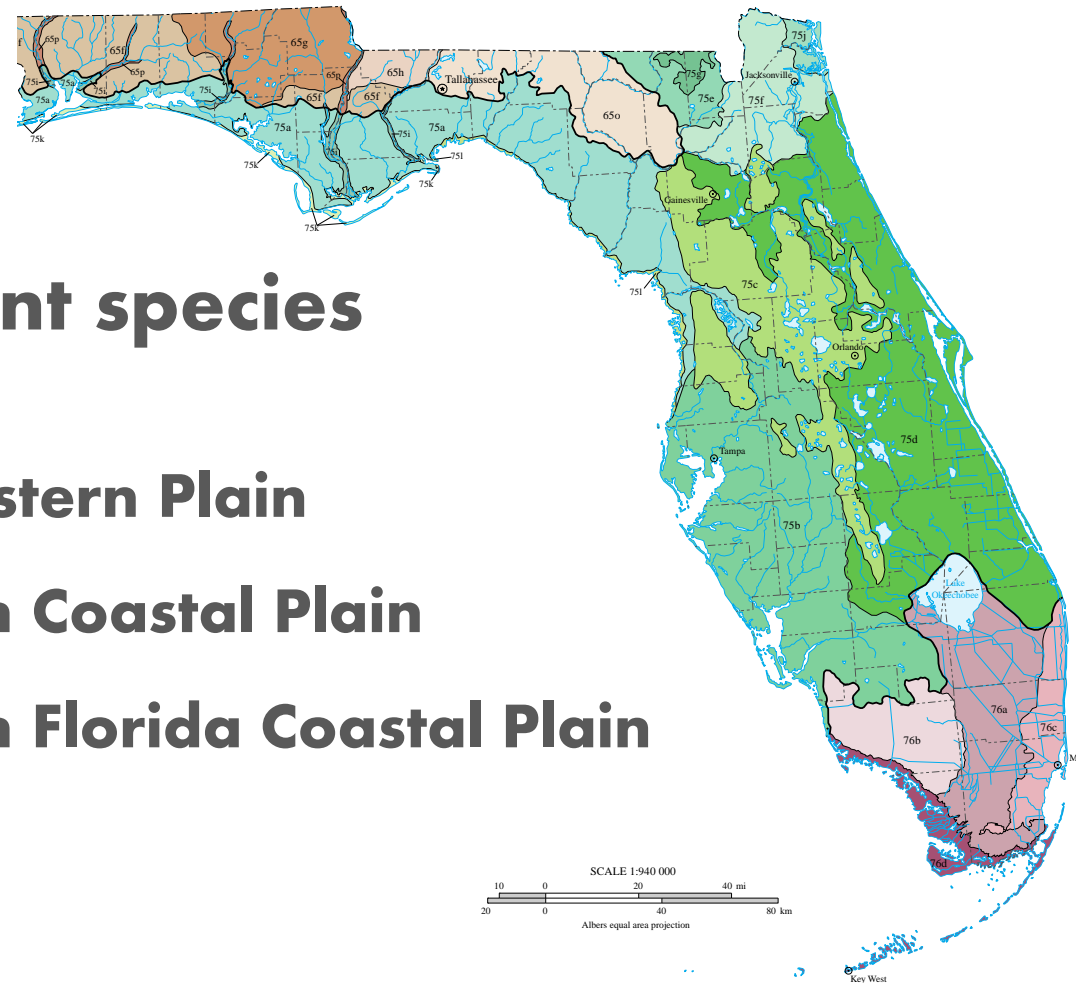
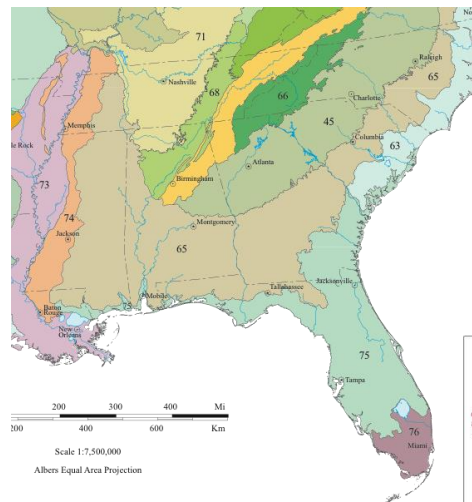





Julie Allen, Charlotte Germain-Aubrey, Rob Guralnick

Allen, Germain-Aubrey et al. 2019. *iScience*11: 57–70 <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.isci.2018.12.002>

Present and Future

Florida Ecoregions ~4,100 vascular plant species



-  **Southeastern Plain**
-  **Southern Coastal Plain**
-  **Southern Florida Coastal Plain**



Modeling the Distribution of Species | BiotaPhy

- Location information from herbarium labels
- Environmental data:
 - Temperature, precipitation, soil, etc.
- Software to model the range of each species
- For Florida plants:

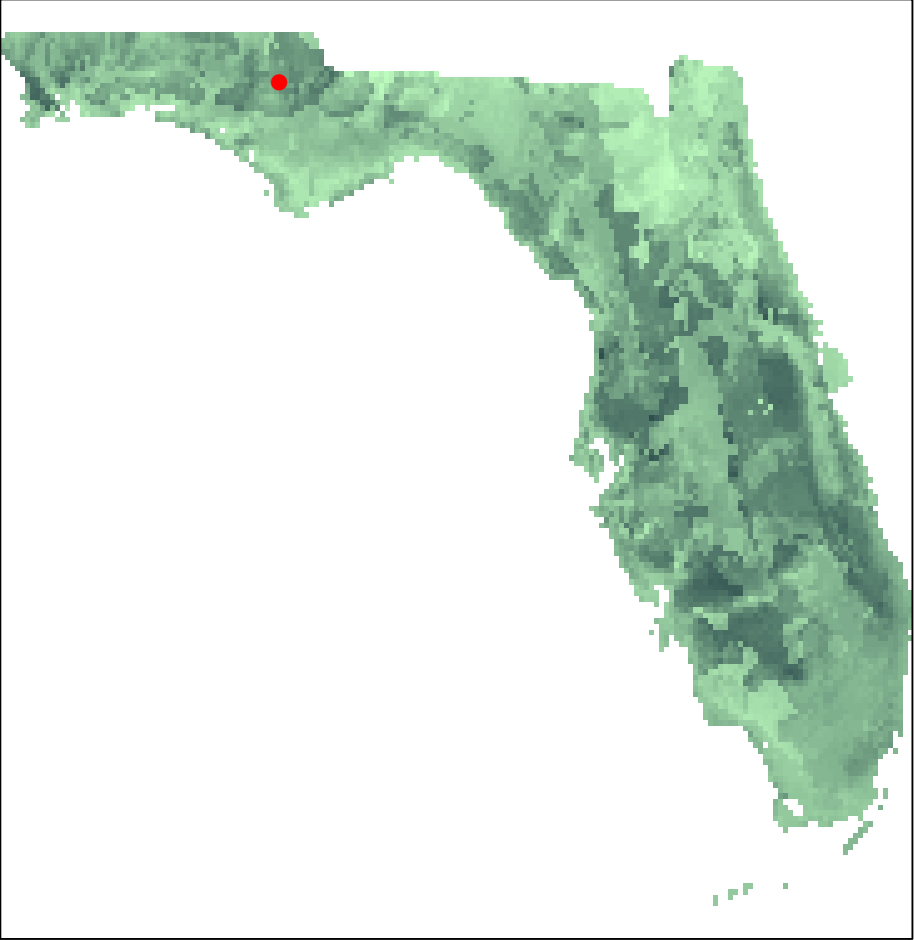
- **~1500** plant species
(of **4100** species)



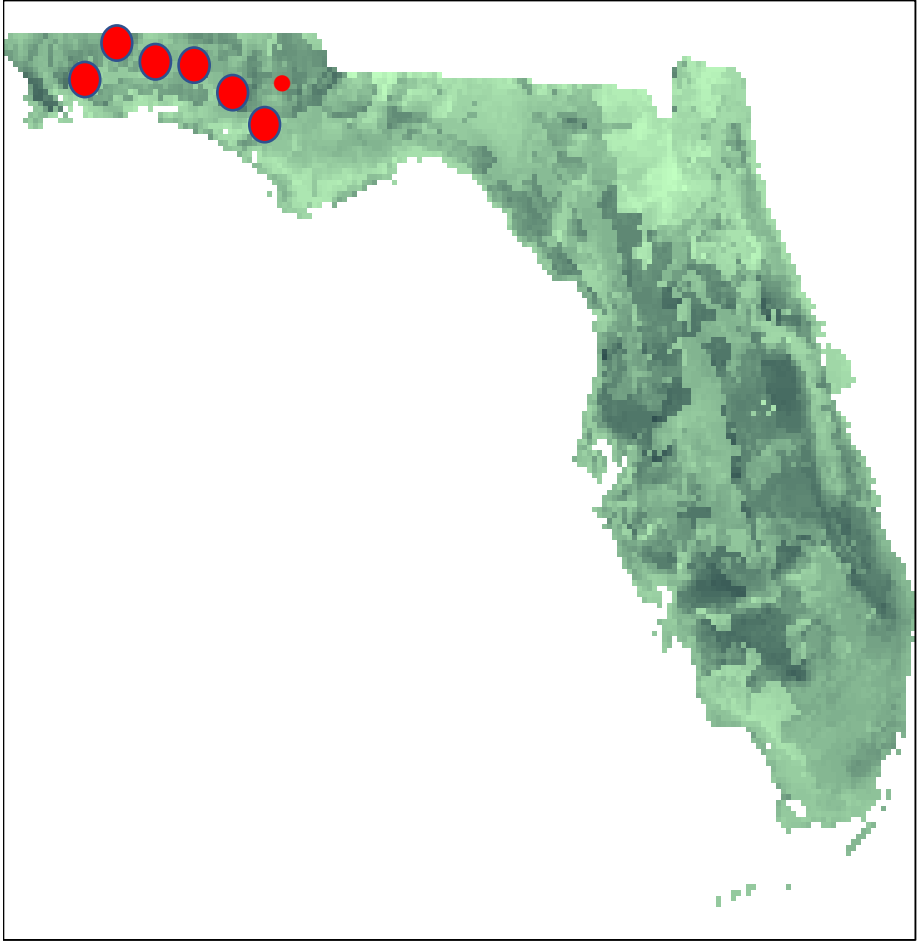
Modeling the Distribution of Species: Present **BiotaPhy**



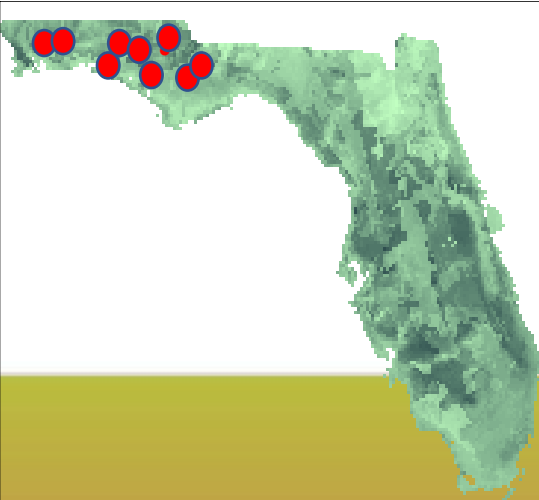
Modeling the Distribution of Species: Present **BiotaPhy**



Modeling the Distribution of Species: Present **BiotaPhy**



Modeling the Distribution of Species: Present | BiotaPhy

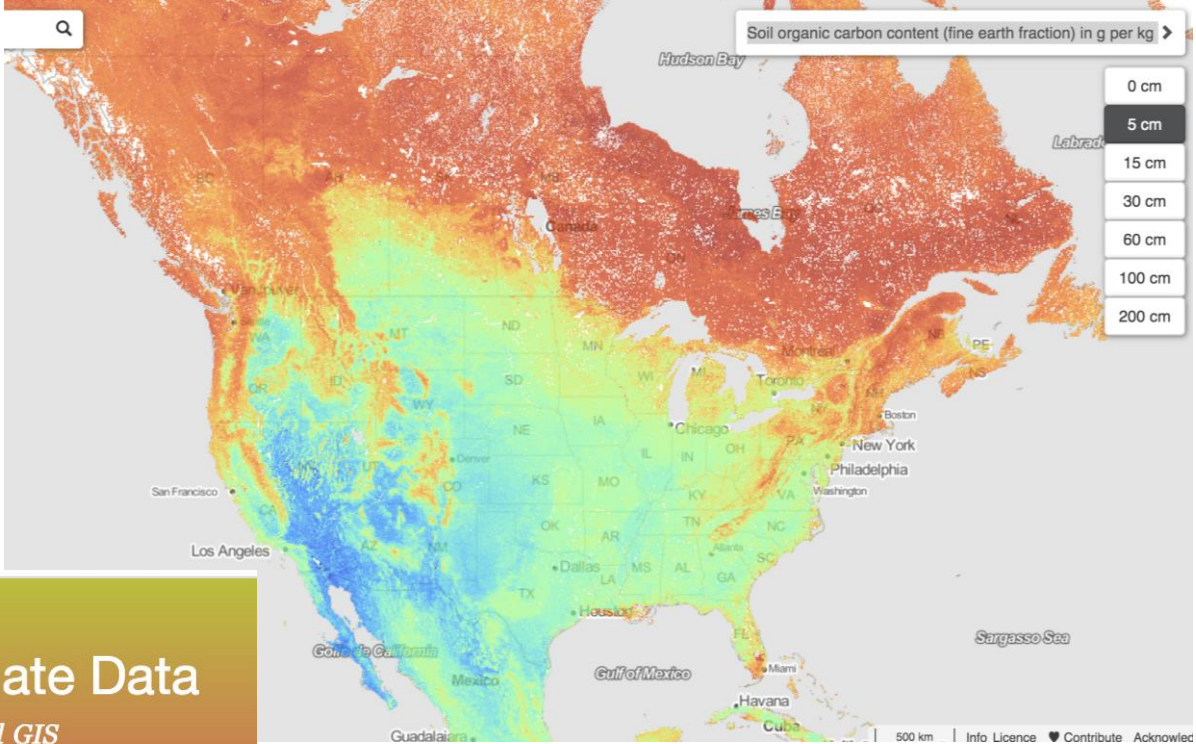
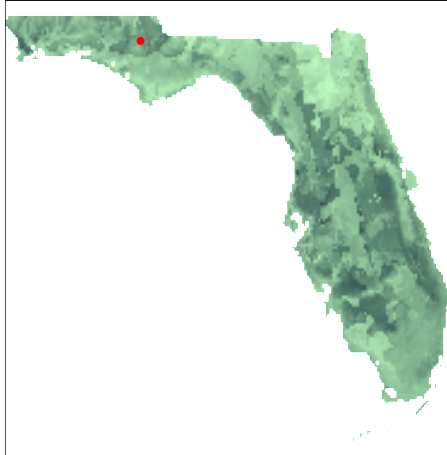


WorldClim - Global Climate Data
Free climate data for ecological modeling and GIS

19 Bioclimatic variables
temperature
rainfall

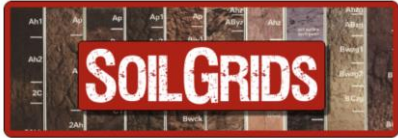


Modeling the Distribution of Species: Present | BiotaPhy



WorldClim - Global Climate Data
Free climate data for ecological modeling and GIS

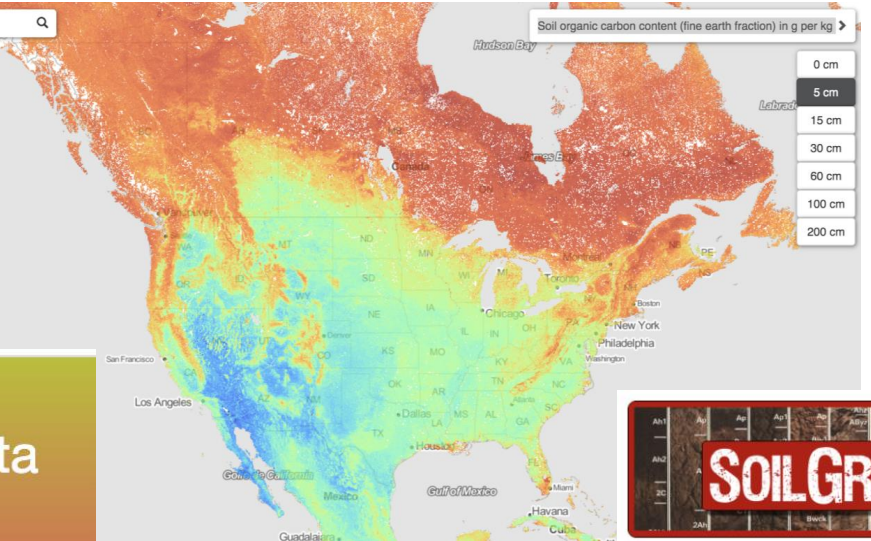
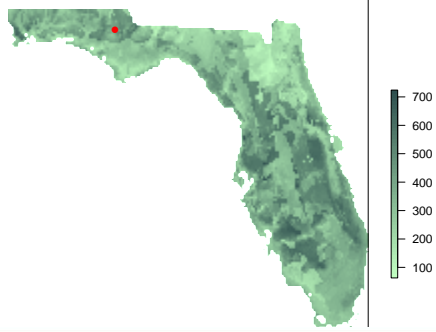
Global maps of soil properties at multiple depths



- cycle background maps
- geolocate
- open layer menu
- open SoilInfo (works only when location is selected)

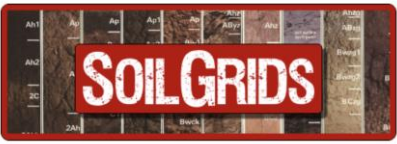
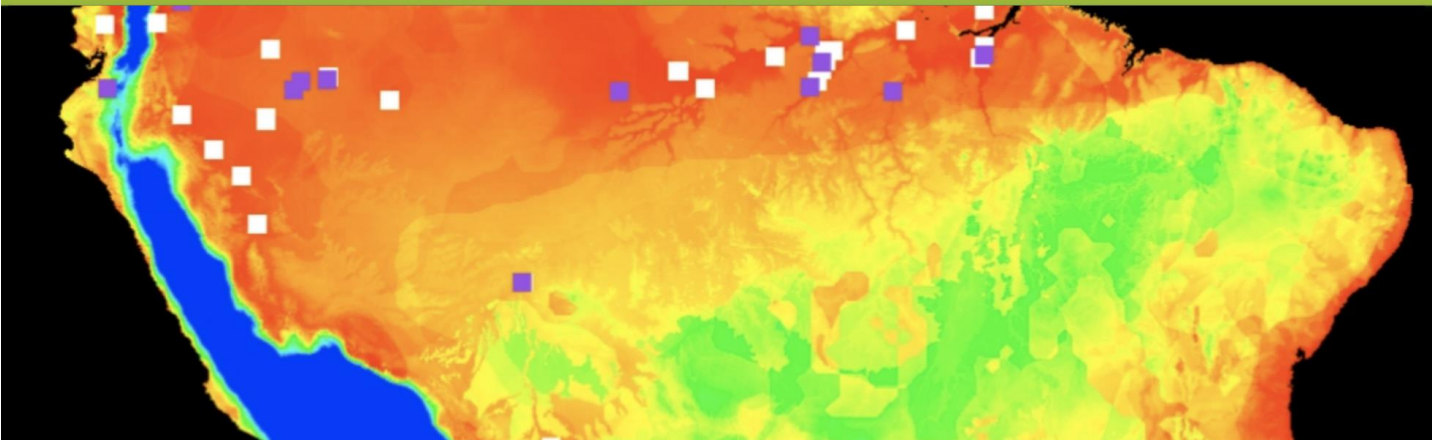
Powered by **ISRIC**
World Soil Information

Modeling the Distribution of Species: Present **BiotaPhy**



WorldClim - Global Climate Data
Free climate data for ecological modeling and GIS

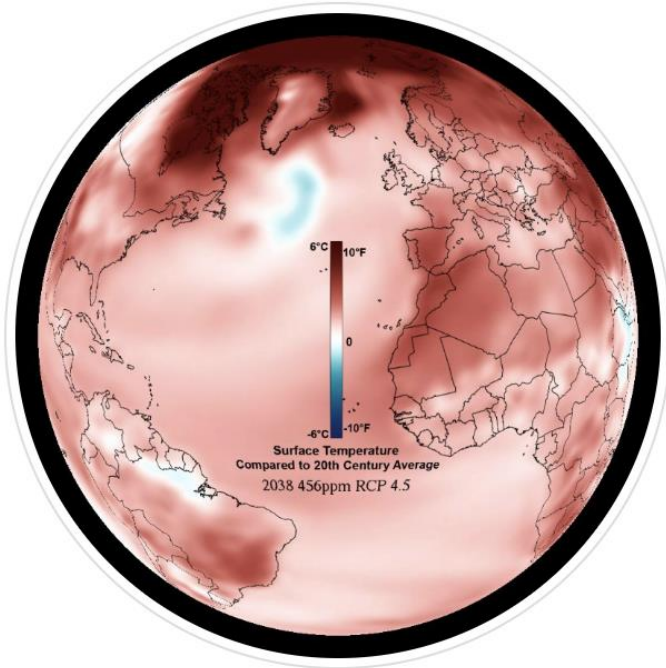
Maxent software for modeling species niches and distributions



- Estimate current distribution
- **Predict future distributions**
- Infer past distributions
- Use as foundation for phylogenetic diversity studies
- Niche of polyploid compared to its diploid progenitor(s)
- Invasives--projections

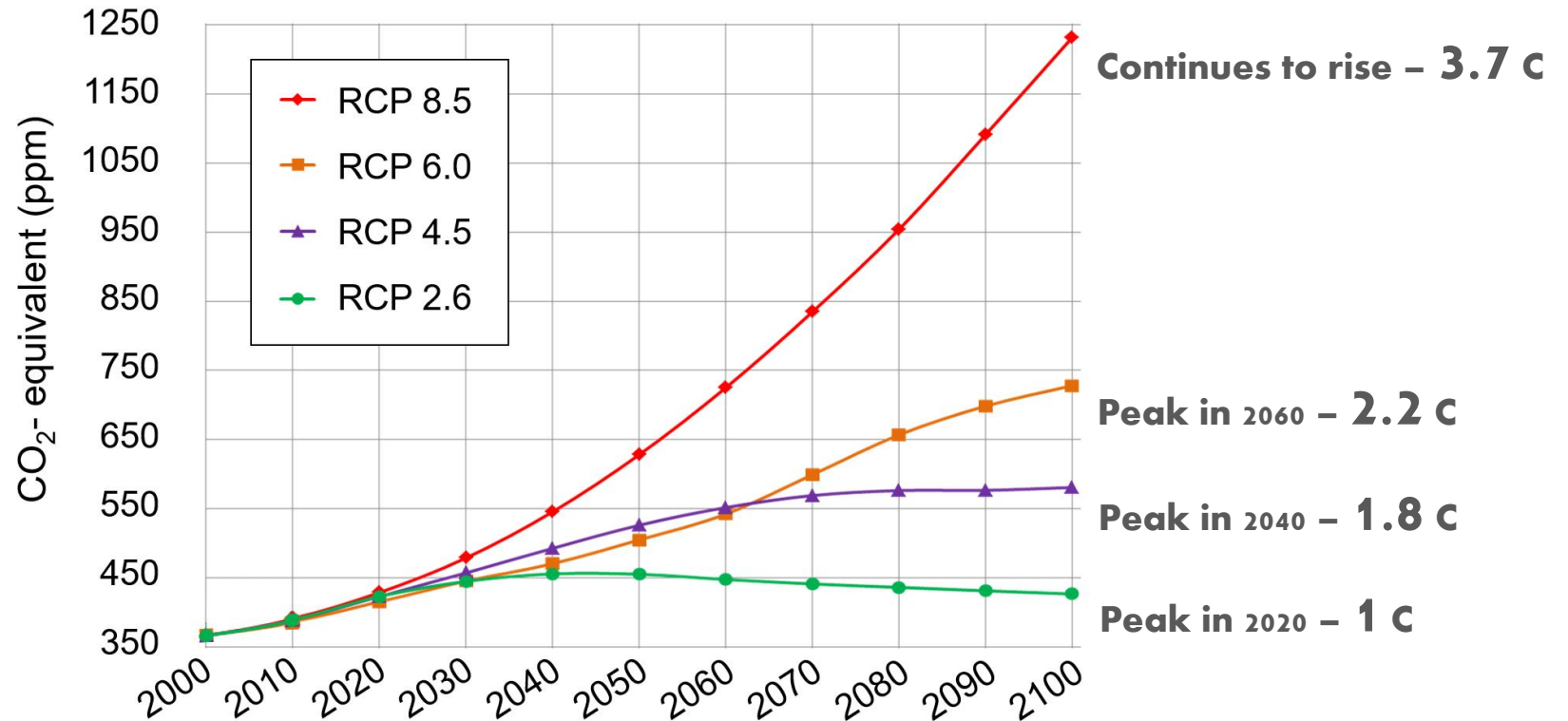
Allen, J., Folk, R.A., P.S. Soltis, D.E. Soltis, R.P. Guralnick. 2019. Biodiversity synthesis across the green branches of the tree of life. *Nature Plants* 5:11-13.

Representative Concentration Pathways: Models for Future Temperatures

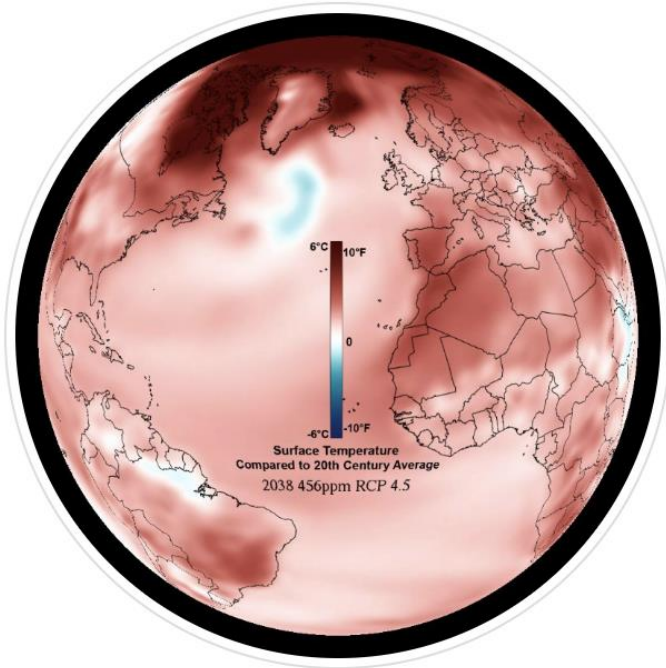


IPCC AR5 Greenhouse Gas Concentration Pathways

Representative Concentration Pathways (RCPs) from the fifth Assessment Report by the International Panel on Climate Change



Representative Concentration Pathways: Models for Future Temperatures

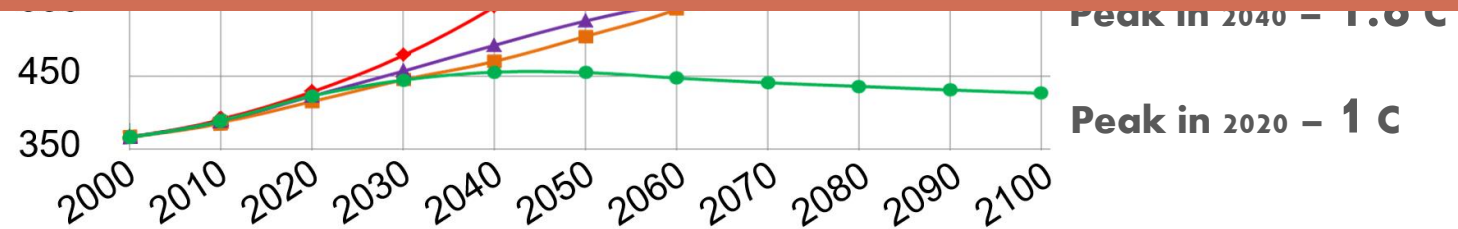


IPCC AR5 Greenhouse Gas Concentration Pathways

Representative Concentration Pathways (RCPs) from the fifth Assessment Report by the International Panel on Climate Change

1250

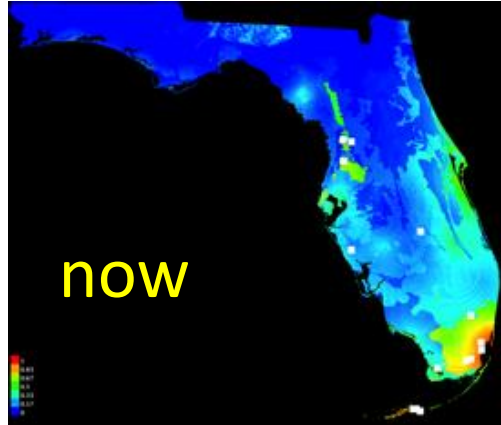
WorldClim - Global Climate Data
Free climate data for ecological modeling and GIS



Response to Climate Change

Abildgaardia ovata (flatspike sedge)

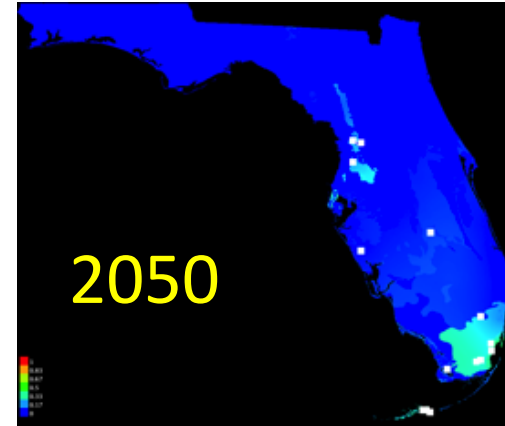
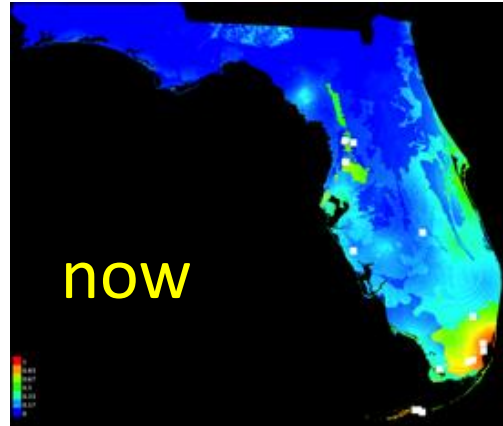
Models for Present and Future!



Response to Climate Change

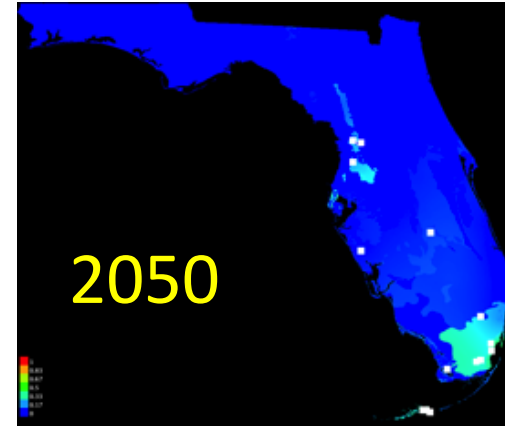
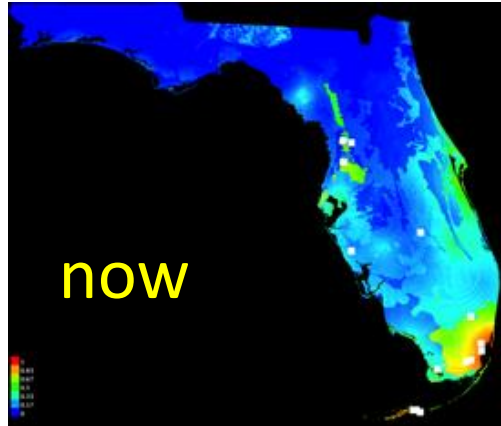
Abildgaardia ovata (flatspike sedge)

Models for Present and Future!



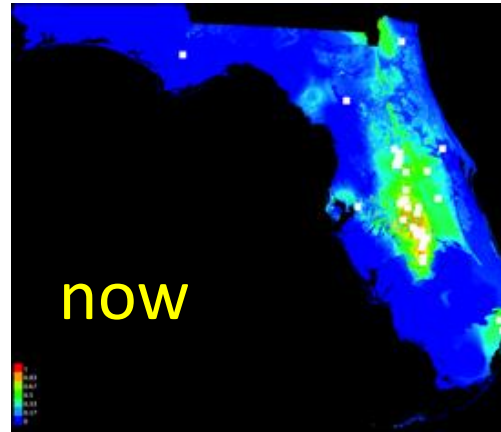
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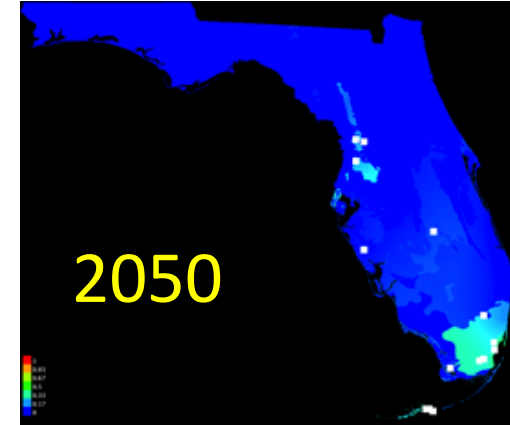
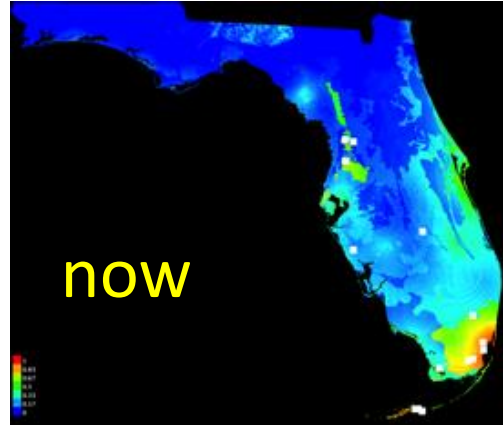
Models for Present and Future!

Prunus geniculata (scrub plum)

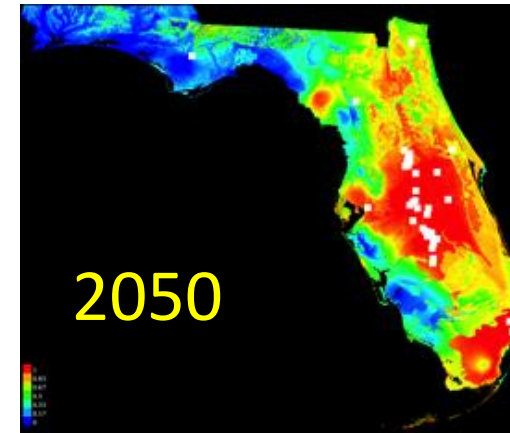
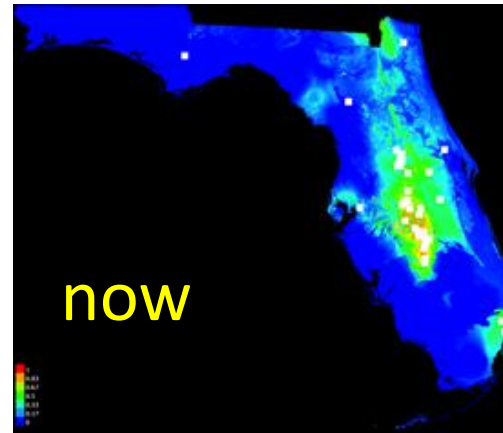


Response to Climate Change

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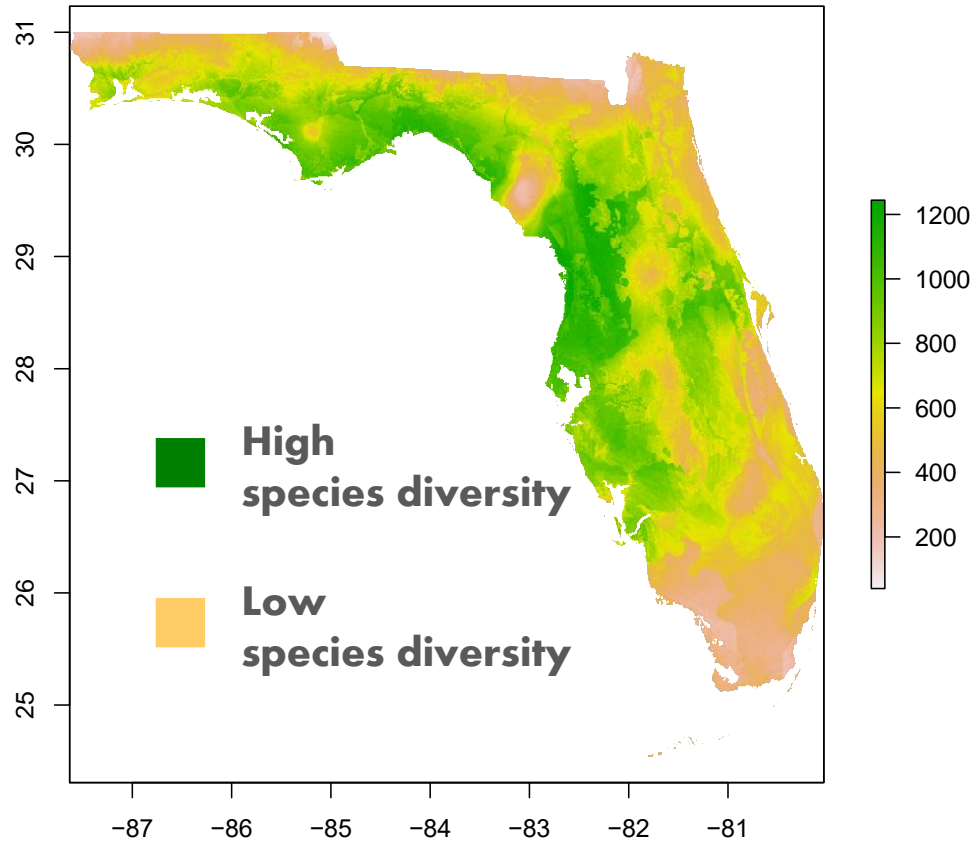


Prunus geniculata (scrub plum)



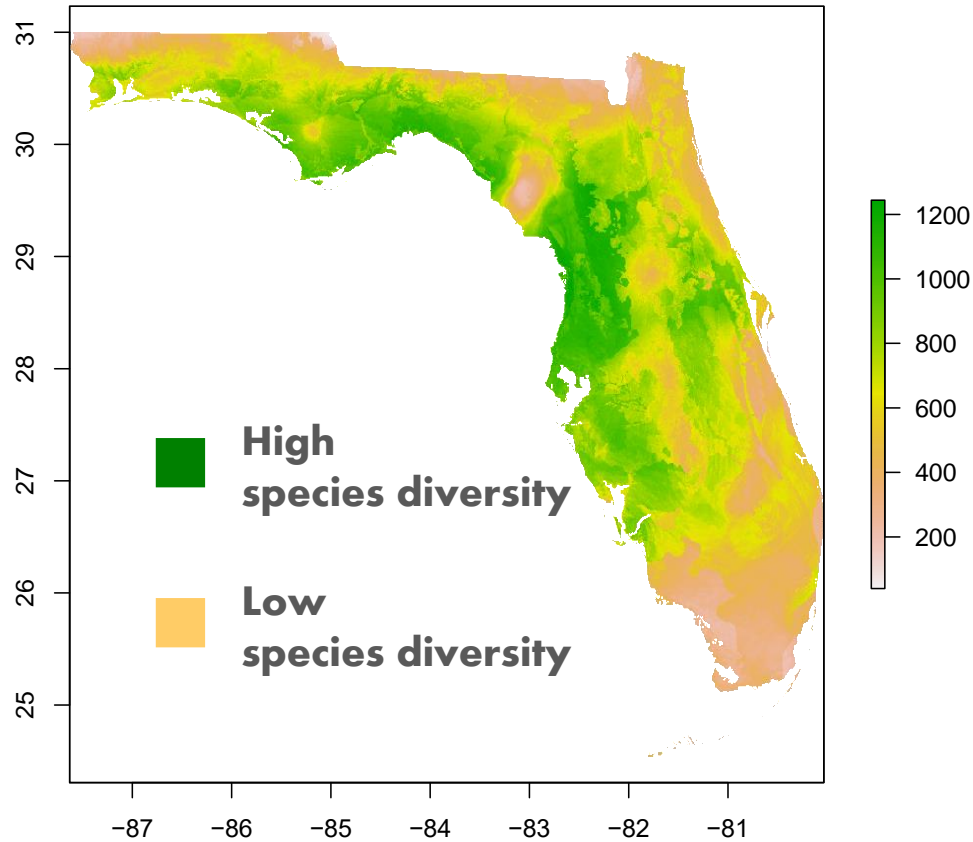
Models for Present and Future!

Present

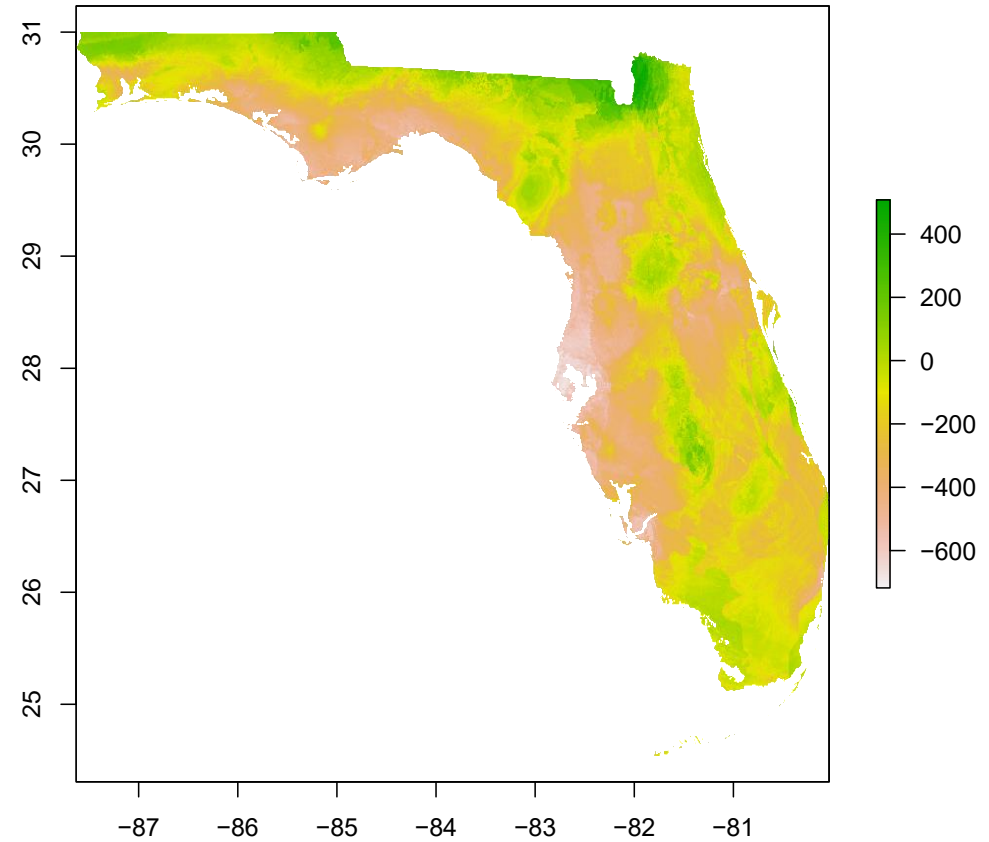


Florida Plant Diversity: Now & 2050

Present



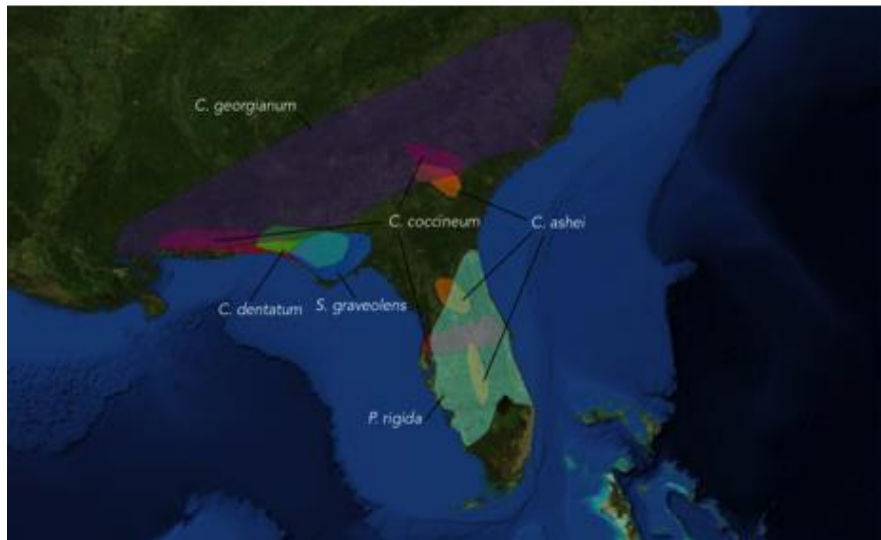
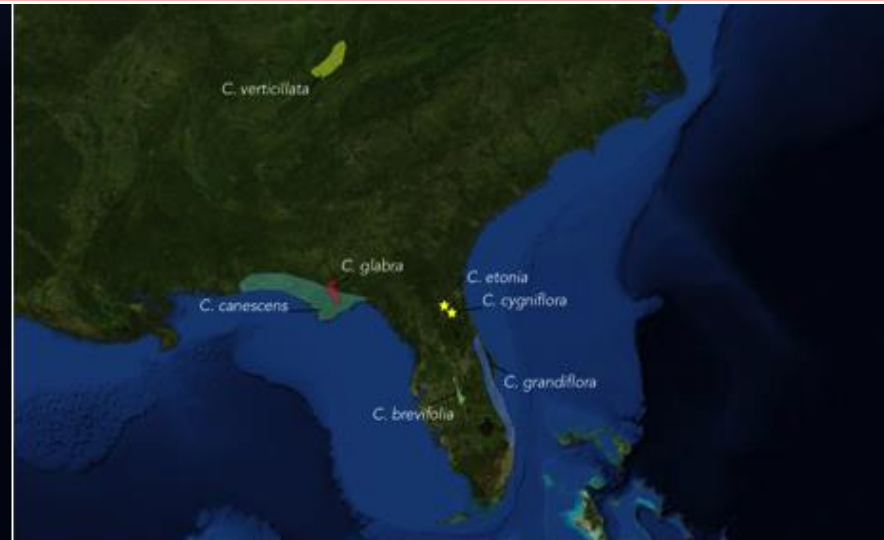
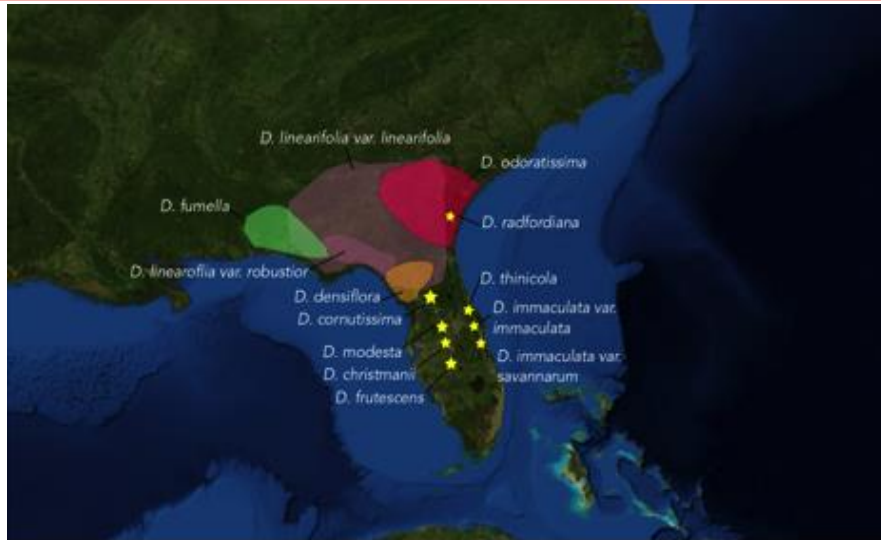
spp 2050 - #spp now



- Estimate current distribution
- Predict future distributions
- **Infer past distributions**
- Use as foundation for phylogenetic diversity studies
- Niche of polyploid compared to its diploid progenitor(s)
- Invasives--projections

Allen, J., Folk, R.A., P.S. Soltis, D.E. Soltis, R.P. Guralnick. 2019. Biodiversity synthesis across the green branches of the tree of life. *Nature Plants* 5:11-13.

Past Distribution: Scrub Mint Clade



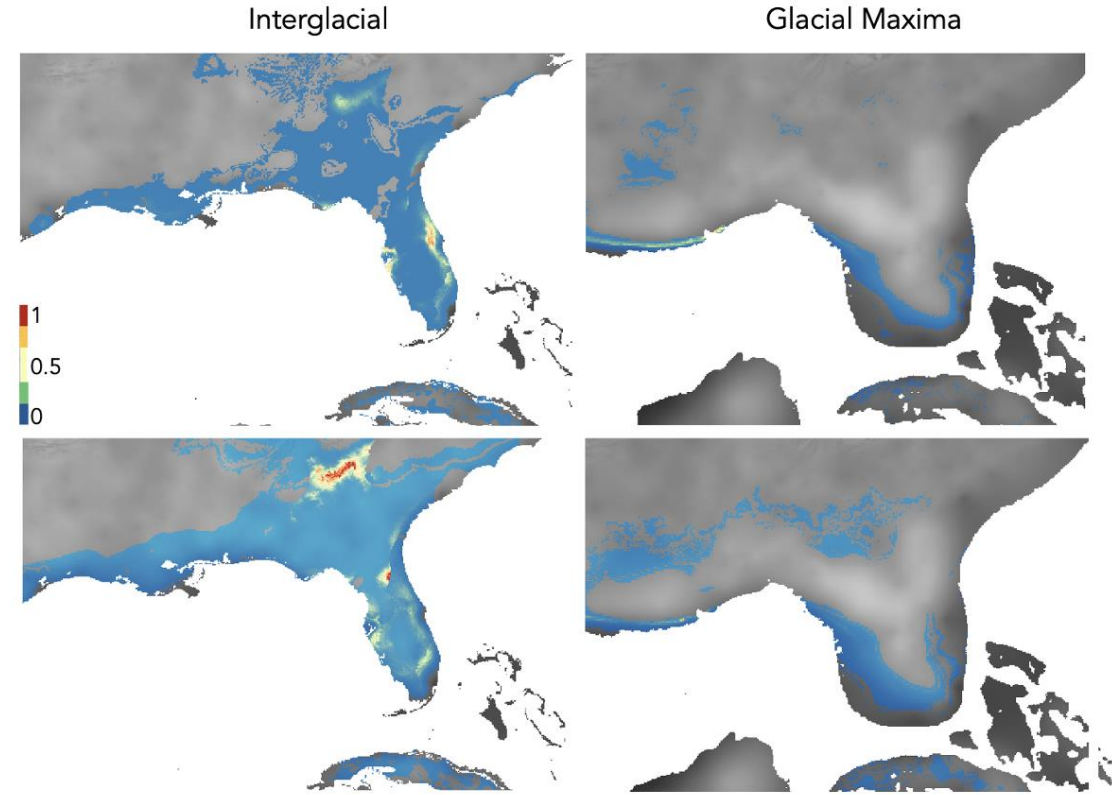
Naranjo et al. 2022.
J. Biogeography

Past Distribution: Scrub Mint Clade



MRCA of SMC

MRCA of *Dicerandra*



PaleoClim:
paleoclim.org

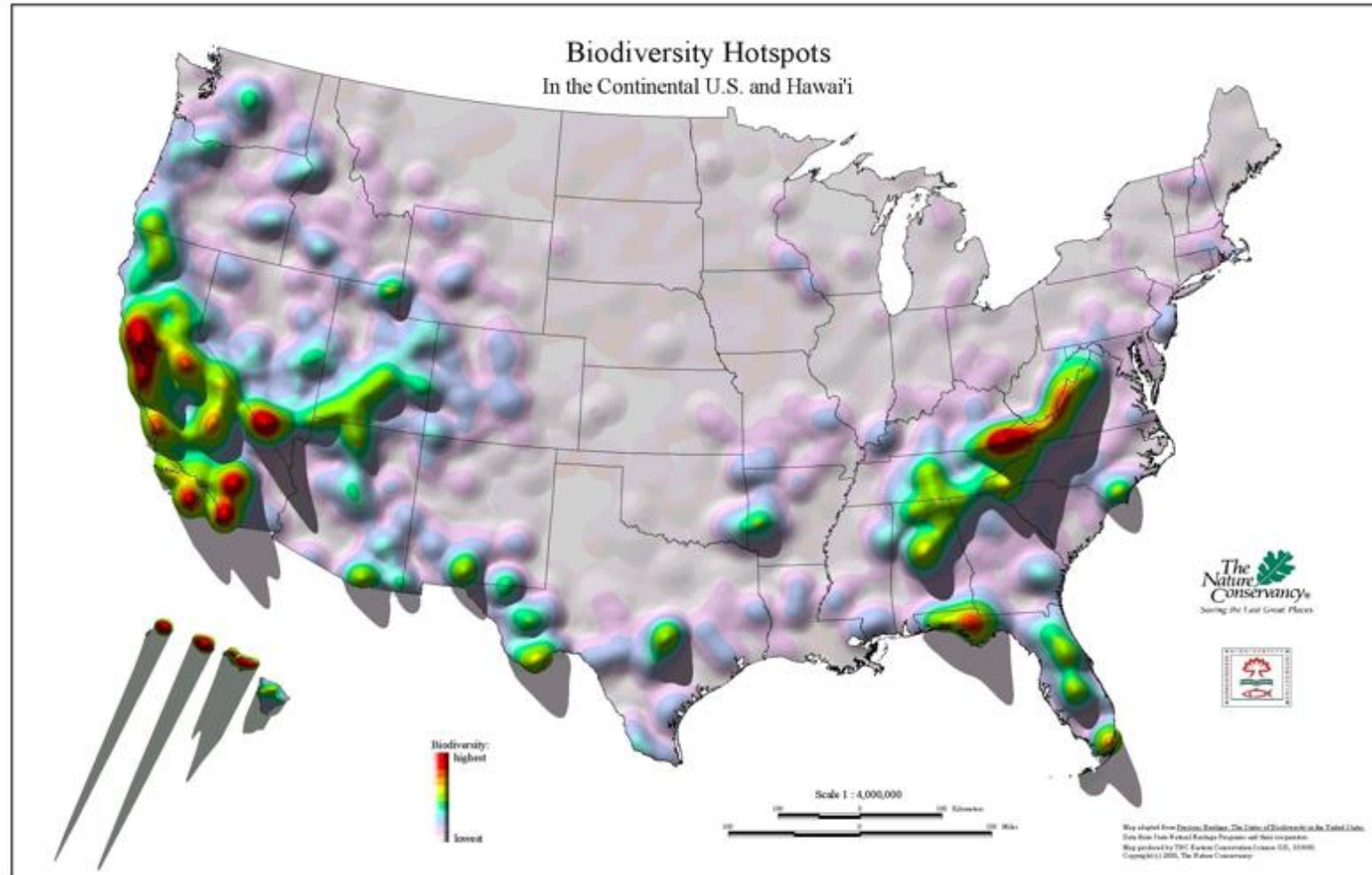


Naranjo et al. 2022. *J. Biogeography*
Folk et al. 2018. *American Naturalist*

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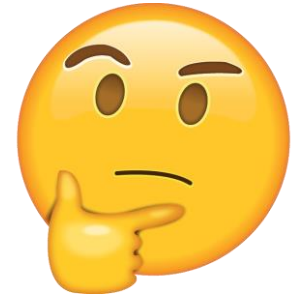
Allen, J., Folk, R.A., P.S. Soltis, D.E. Soltis, R.P. Guralnick. 2019. Biodiversity synthesis across the green branches of the tree of life. *Nature Plants* 5:11-13.

**What to
Protect?**

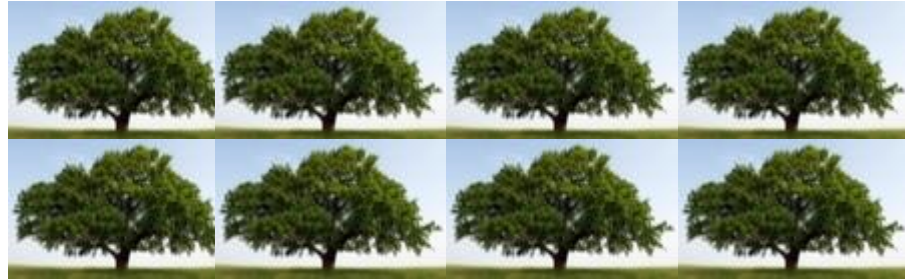


Phylogenetic Diversity

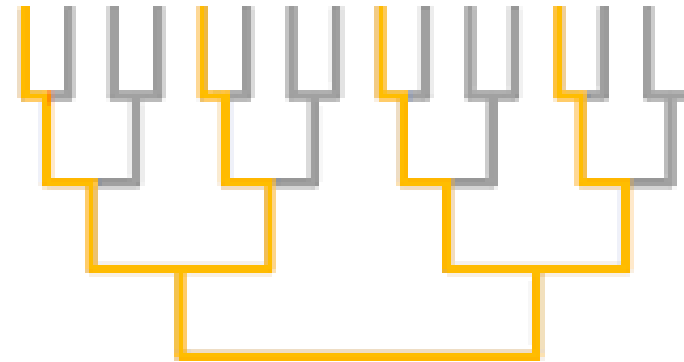
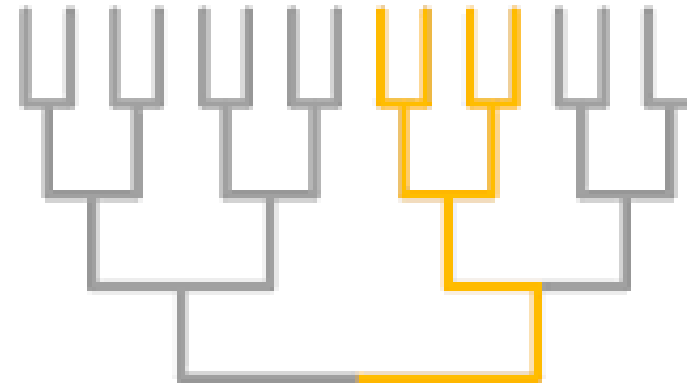
How much of the Tree of Life is present in a geographic area?



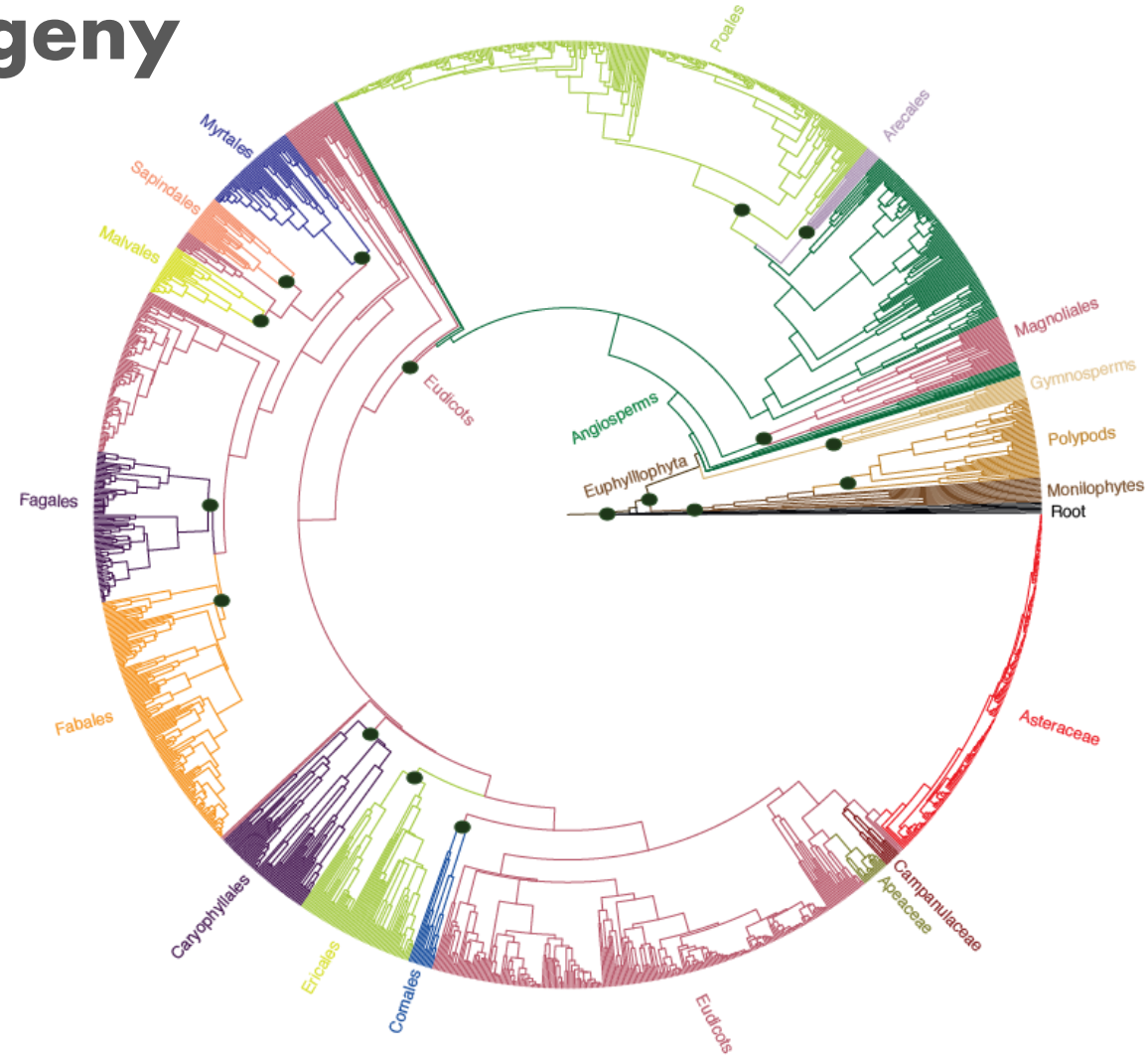
Oaks



Vs.

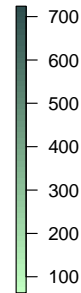
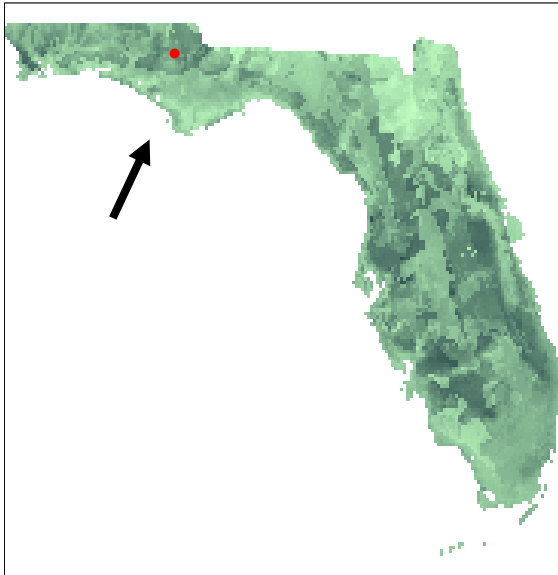


Florida Plant Phylogeny



Allen et al. 2019

How much of the Tree of Life is present in a geographic area?

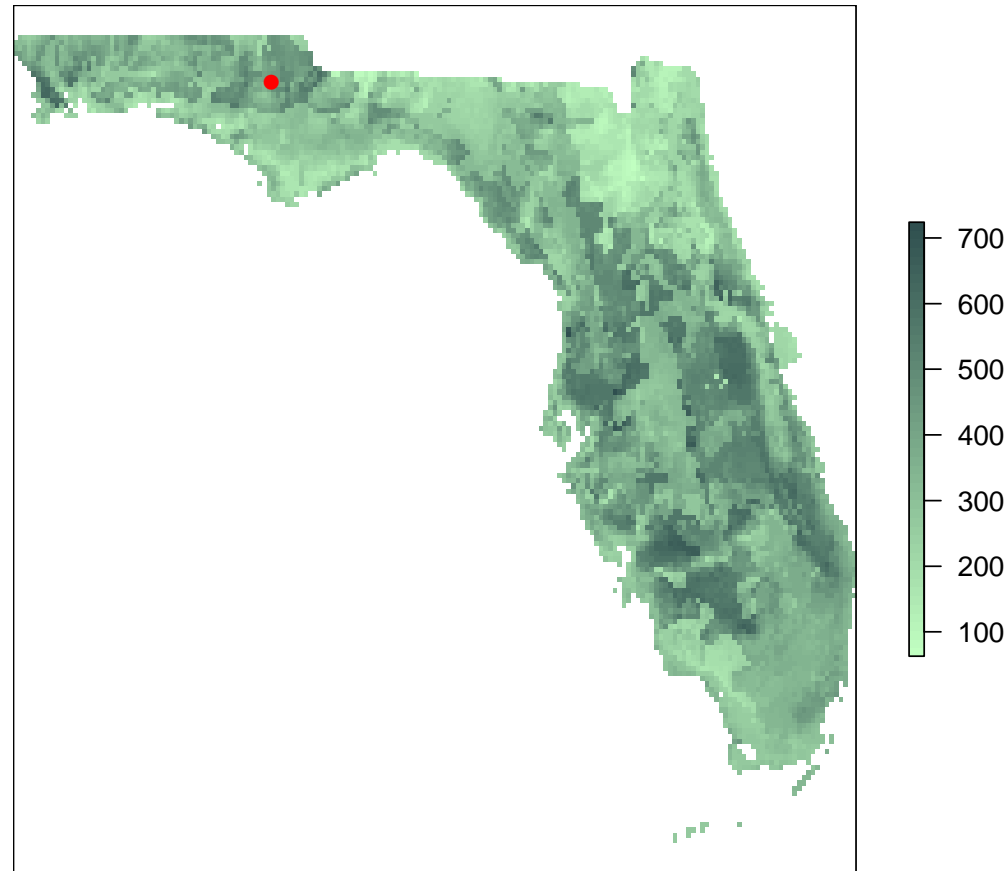


Species A
Species B
Species C
Species D
Species E
...



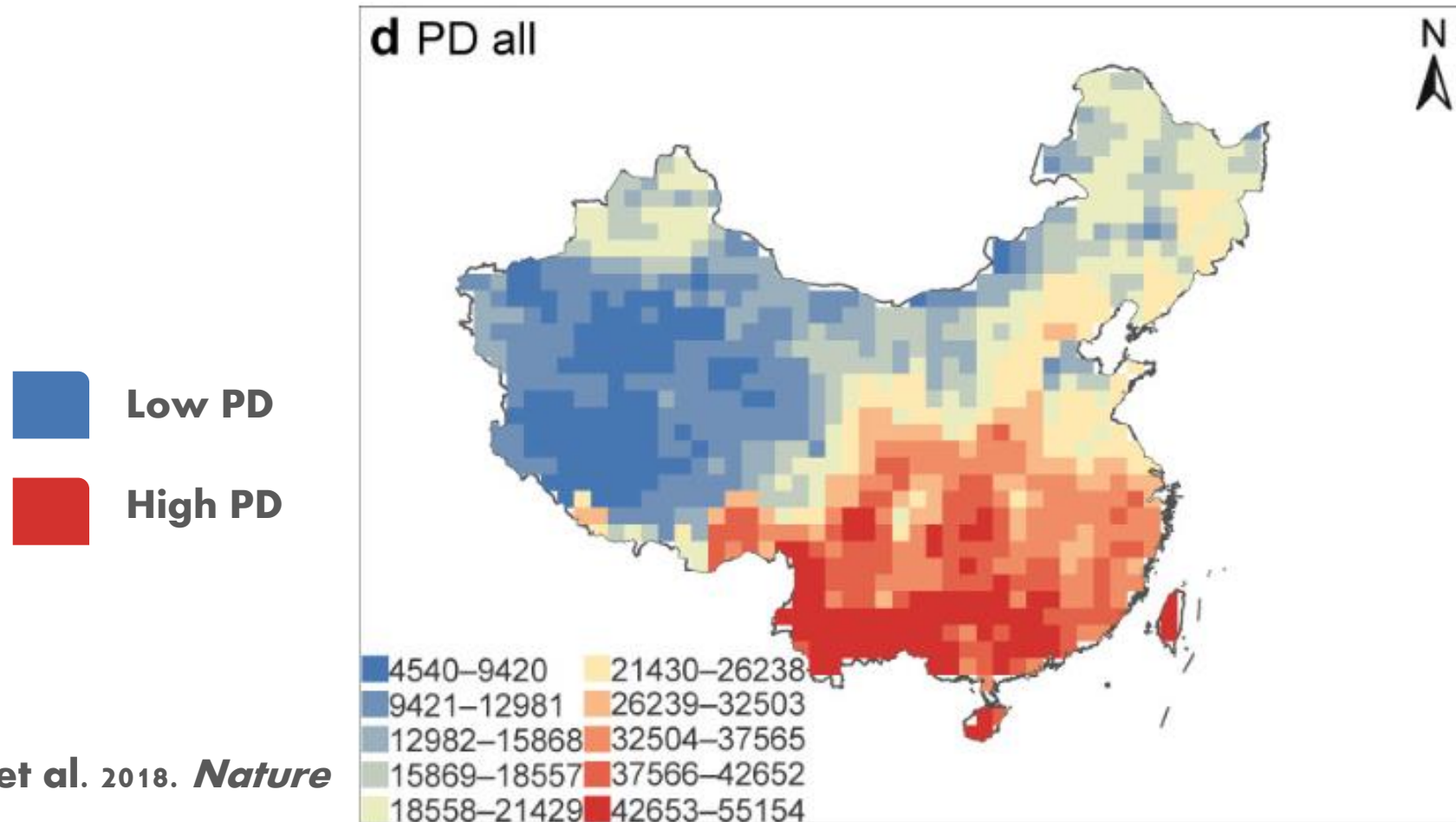
8,045 pixels/communities
16 km² per pixel

How much of the Tree of Life is present in a geographic area?



Phylogenetic Diversity: China

How much of the Tree of Life is present in a geographic area?



Lu et al. 2018. *Nature*

- Estimate current distribution
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Allen, J., Folk, R.A., P.S. Soltis, D.E. Soltis, R.P. Guralnick. 2019. Biodiversity synthesis across the green branches of the tree of life. *Nature Plants* 5: 11-13.

Niche Evolution in Allopolyploids

Niche Intermediacy



Niche Expansion



Niche Contraction



Niche Novelty



**Blaine
Marchant**

Niche Evolution in Allopolyploids

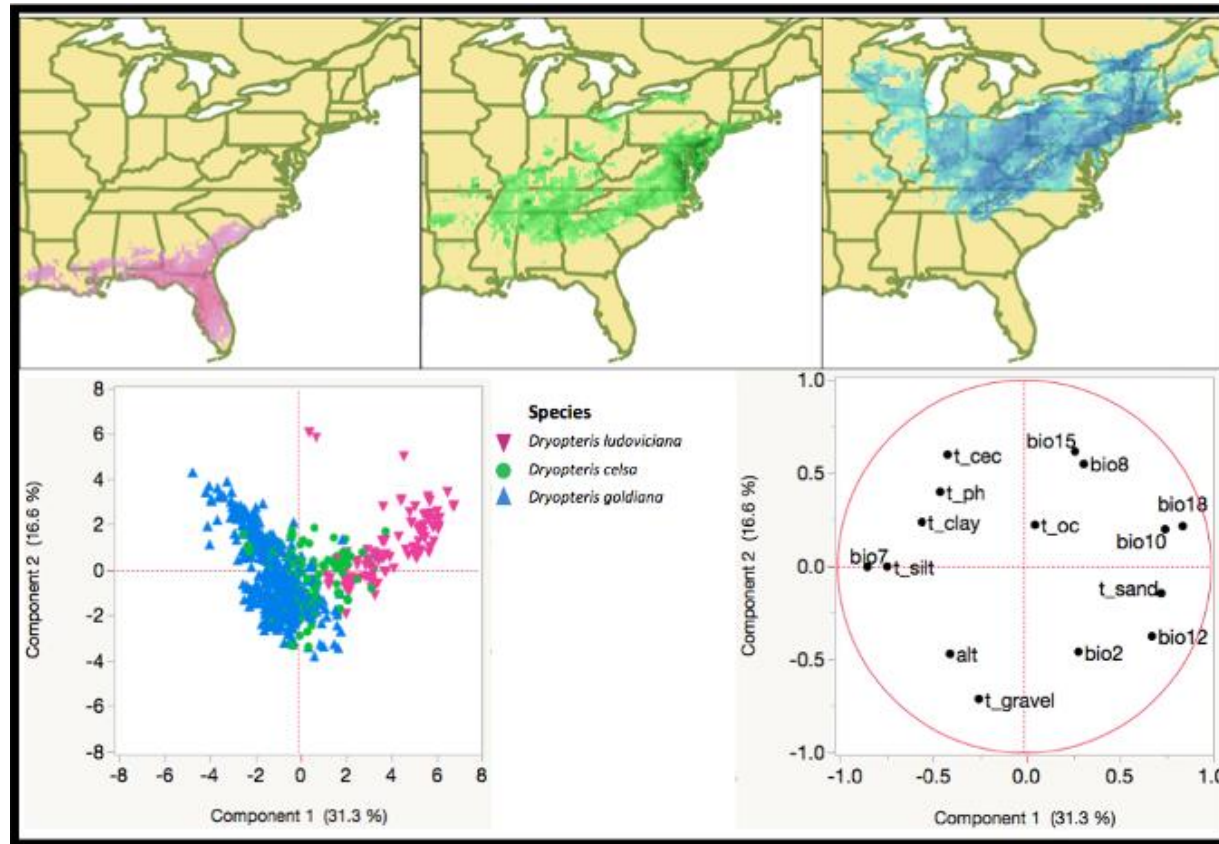


Niche Evolution in Allopolyploids

Niche Intermediacy

Breadth: Parent < Polyploid < Parent

Overlap: Polyploid > 0.3



Dryopteris celsa

Nickrent, D.L. et al. 2006
onwards. *Phytoimages*.
<http://www.phytoimages.siu.edu>
u

13 allopolyploids & parents

- **Niche intermediacy:** 8
- **Niche contraction:** 2
- **Niche expansion:** 2
- **Niche novelty:** 1

- **More cases are needed!**



Marchant et al. 2016. *New Phytologist*

RESEARCH ARTICLE

AMERICAN JOURNAL OF BOTANY

Niche divergence between diploid and autotetraploid *Tolmiea*¹

Clayton J. Visger^{2,3,5}, Charlotte C. Germain-Aubrey³, Maya Patel³, Emily B. Sessa^{2,4}, Pamela S. Soltis^{3,4}, and Douglas E. Soltis^{2,4}



Tolmiea menziesii



Galax urceolata

American Journal of
Botany



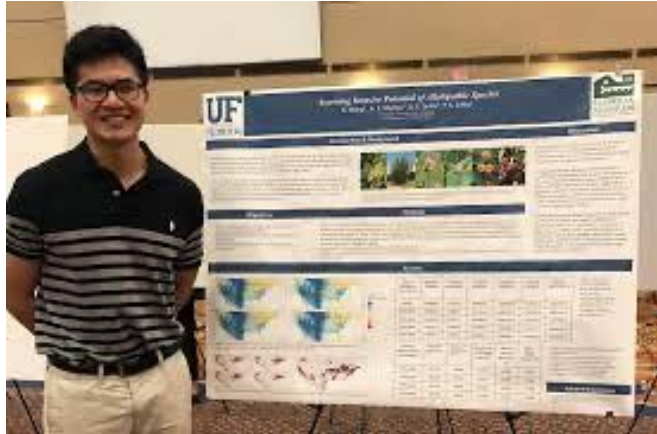
RESEARCH ARTICLE

Climatic niche comparison among ploidal levels in the classic autopolyploid system, *Galax urceolata*

Michelle L. Gaynor^{1,4} , D. Blaine Marchant^{2,3}, Douglas E. Soltis^{2,3}, and Pamela S. Soltis³

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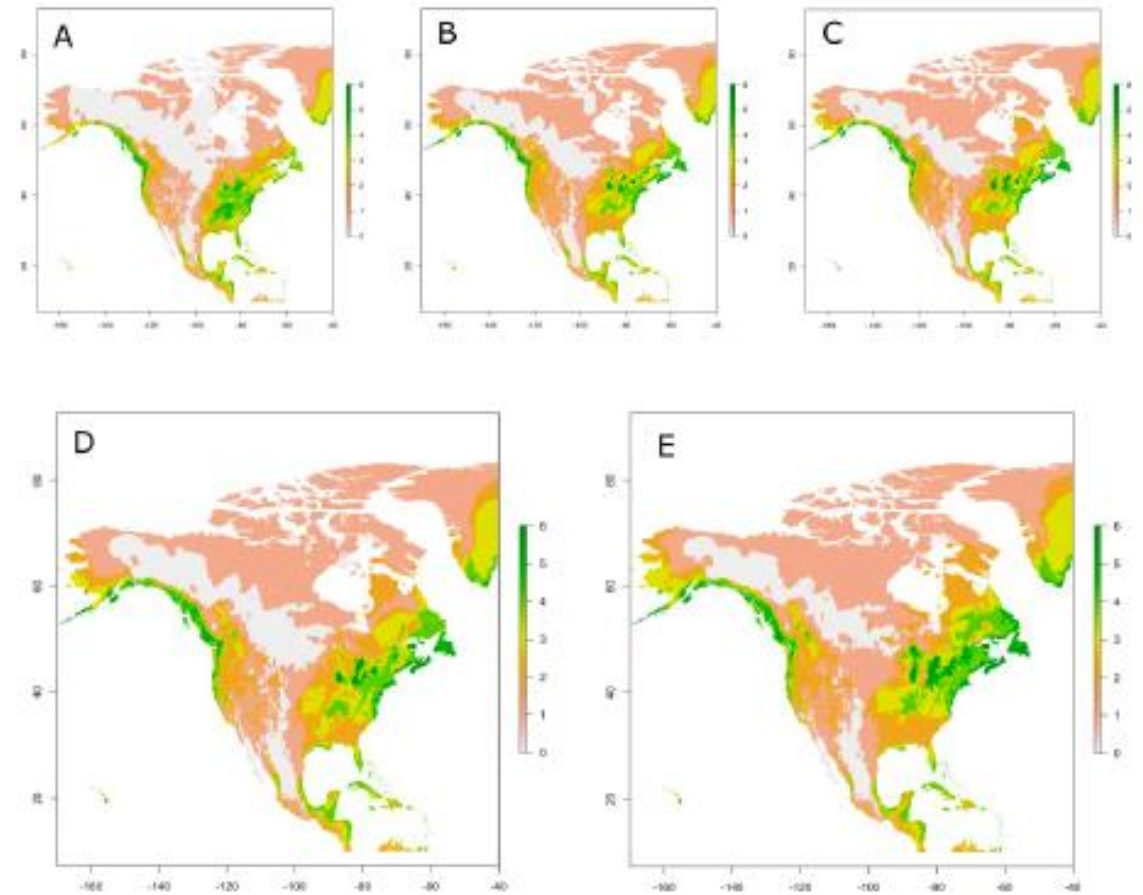
Allen, J., Folk, R.A., P.S. Soltis, D.E. Soltis, R.P. Guralnick. 2019. Biodiversity synthesis across the green branches of the tree of life. *Nature Plants* 5:11-13.



Anson
Wang

Ailanthus altissima
Casuarina equisetifolia
Centaurea stoebe ssp. *micranthos*
Dioscorea bulbifera
Lantana camara
Schinus terebinthifolia

Wang, A., A. Melton et al. 2022. *Plant Diversity*.



Time to Exercise!

What happens when there is a large dataset?

Should we manually create 40,000

Species Distribution Models?

**We use BiotaPhy tools to automate
the creation of SDMs!!**



Before we start ...

Download for the first time OR update the tutorials repository containing test data and configurations.

Initial download:

```
git clone https://github.com/biotaphy/tutorials
```

Update tutorial:

```
cd tutorials
```

```
git pull
```

Let's rebuild our Docker images to incorporate any updates. Move to the directory containing the tutorials repository that you downloaded or updated.

- ✓ Remove old docker elements: `./run_tutorial.sh cleanup_all`
- ✓ Rebuild data and image: `./run_tutorial.sh build_all`

Windows users will run
with: **run_tutorial.bat**

Let's put the automated framework developed by BiotaPhy to the test!

How to create Species Distribution Models (SDMs):

3 steps:

- ✓ **Data Preparation**
- ✓ **Run Tutorial**
- ✓ **Inspect Output**

Input: occurrence records

Input: environmental layers

Input: ecoregions file

Input: Script parameter file

Data Preparation

Input: occurrence records

The `create_sdm` tool accepts one or more occurrence CSV datasets, defined in two ways in the configuration file: either specified by a parent directory in the `points_dir` parameter, and/or a list of individual files in the `points_layer` parameter. The first line of each CSV file must contain fieldnames. Each of the occurrence datasets must use the same fieldnames for the `species_key`, `x_key`, and `y_key`, specified in the configuration file.

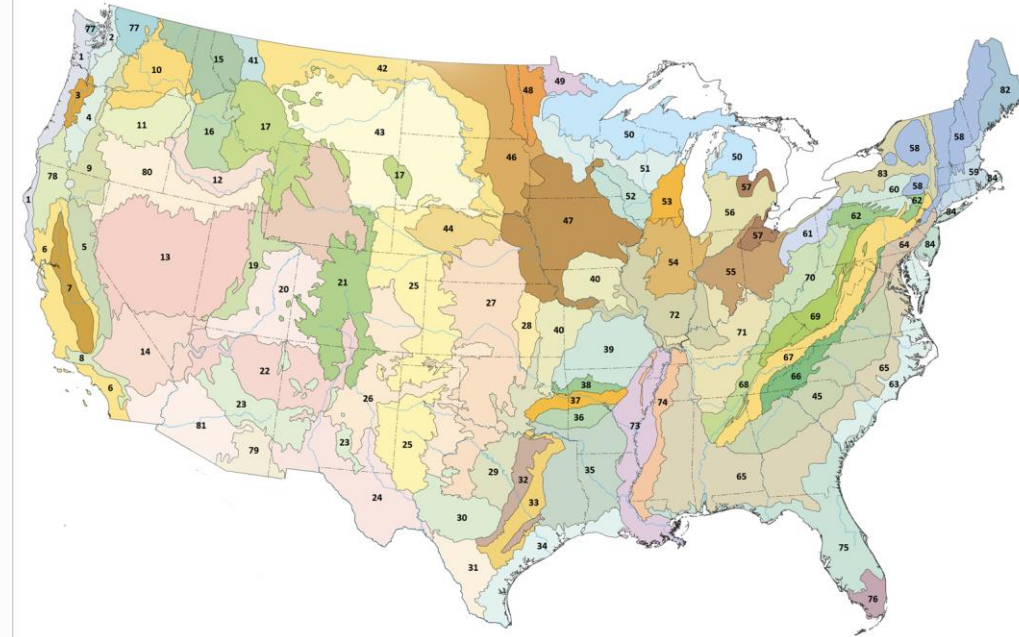
More information is in the **Occurrence Data** section of [data_wrangle_occurrence](#).

Input: environmental layers

The environmental layers files are raster files of environmental data relevant to the species being modeled. Maxent, the only SDM algorithm offered in Biotaphy tools, requires environmental layers in ASCII format. Environmental layers are identified in the script parameter file by their parent directory.

Input: ecoregions file

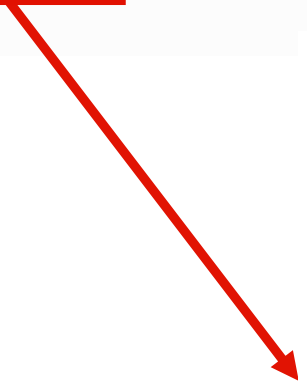
The ecoregions file is a raster file indicating broad ecoregions for the region being modeled. Ecoregions data can be used to compute a simple Rare Species Model for species without sufficient points for a Maxent model, by intersecting the convex hull of the points with the ecoregions. These data are available from coarse to fine scales, at global and regional extents. This file can be in ASCII or GeoTiff format.



Input: Script parameter file

A JSON parameter file is required for this command. A test tutorial parameter file is:

[create_sdm.json](#),



```
{
  "log_filename": "/volumes/output/create_sdm.log",
  "log_console": true,
  "report_filename": "/volumes/output/create_sdm.rpt",
  "min_points": 12,
  "species_key": "species_name",
  "x_key": "x",
  "y_key": "y",
  "points_dir": "/volumes/data/input/heuchera_rfolk",
  "env_dir": "/volumes/env/na_2.5min",
  "ecoregions_filename": "/volumes/env/ecoreg_na_2.5min.tif",
  "out_dir": "/volumes/output/heuchera_rfolk_sdm"
}
```

- Required:
 - **out_dir**: Parent directory where the output species directories containing output data should be written. If the directory does not exist, it will be created
 - **env_dir**: Directory containing the environmental raster files for modeling and projecting species distributions.
 - **ecoregions_filename**: Raster file denoting ecologically and geographically defined regions to be used for modeling rare species or as a mask for the Maxent algorithm.

**Required
parameters!**

```
{  
  "log_filename": "/volumes/output/create_sdm.log",  
  "log_console": true,  
  "report_filename": "/volumes/output/create_sdm.rpt",  
  "min_points": 12,  
  "species_key": "species_name",  
  "x_key": "x",  
  "y_key": "y",  
  "points_dir": "/volumes/data/input/heuchera_rfolk",  
  "env_dir": "/volumes/env/na_2.5min",  
  "ecoregions_filename": "/volumes/env/ecoreg_na_2.5min.tif",  
  "out_dir": "/volumes/output/heuchera_rfolk_sdm"  
}
```


Data Preparation: Script Parameter File



- **points_dir**: Parent directory containing occurrence data in CSV format. The tool will attempt to model all CSV files in this directory. Though this parameter is optional, one or both of *points_dir* and *points_layer* must be included.
- **points_layer**: List of filenames containing occurrence data in CSV format. Though this parameter is optional, one or both of *points_dir* and *points_layer* must be included.
- **species_key**: The field name of the column containing the taxon value in all occurrence data files. If this parameter is not specified, it will default to *species_name* (which is also the default value created in CSV data output from *split_occurrence_data* and





```
wrangle_occurrences` {  
    "log_filename": "/volumes/output/create_sdm.log",  
    "log_console": true,  
    "report_filename": "/volumes/output/create_sdm.rpt",  
    "min_points": 12,  
    "species_key": "species_name",  
    "x_key": "x",  
    "y_key": "y",  
    "points_dir": "/volumes/data/input/heuchera_rfolk",  
    "env_dir": "/volumes/env/na_2.5min",  
    "ecoregions_filename": "/volumes/env/ecoreg_na_2.5min.tif",  
    "out_dir": "/volumes/output/heuchera_rfolk_sdm"  
}
```

**Optional
parameters used**

Data Preparation: Script Parameter File

- **maxent_params**: Extra options and parameters to be sent to Maxent. A full list of Maxent parameters, long with the value type, and sometimes a valid range of values, is available in the [Maxent Github repository](#).

83 lines (83 sloc) | 13.1 KB

Raw Blame    

Q Search this file...

1	Parameter	Abbreviations	Display text	Values
2	responseCurves	P	Create response curves	boolean
3	pictures		Make pictures of predictions	boolean
4	jackknife	J	Do jackknife to measure variable importance	boolean
5	outputFormat		Output format	string/Cloglog/Logistic/Cumulative/Raw
6	outputFileType		Output file type	string/asc/mxe/grd/bil
7	outputDirectory	o	Output directory	directory
8	projectionLayers	j	Projection layers directory/file	filedirectory
9	samplesFile	s	Samples	file
10	environmentalLayers	e	Environmental layers	filedirectory

Input: Script parameter file

- **min_points**: Minimum number of points in an occurrence dataset for Maxent to be used for modeling to. If the data contains less than the minimum, the *Rare Species Modeling* algorithm will be used.
- **log_filename**: Output filename to write logging data
- **log_console**: 'true' to write log to console
- **report_filename**: output filename with data modifications made by wranglers

**Optional
parameters used**

```
{  
  "log_filename": "/volumes/output/create_sdm.log",  
  "log_console": true,  
  "report_filename": "/volumes/output/create_sdm.rpt",  
  "min_points": 12,  
  "species_key": "species_name",  
  "x_key": "x",  
  "y_key": "y",  
  "points_dir": "/volumes/data/input/heuchera_rfolk",  
  "env_dir": "/volumes/env/na_2.5min",  
  "ecoregions_filename": "/volumes/env/ecoreg_na_2.5min.tif",  
  "out_dir": "/volumes/output/heuchera_rfolk_sdm"  
}
```

Let's run this tutorial!

Run tutorial

with a list and a directory containing occurrence data files.

Initiate the create_sdm process with the following:

```
./run_tutorial.sh create_sdm data/config/create_sdm.json
```

```
./run_tutorial.bat create_sdm data/config/create_sdm.json
```

**Goal: Create Species
Distribution Models for
multiple taxa at the same time**

**Remember, you will RUN this code in
the terminal (Linux/OSX) or in a
Command Prompt (Windows)!**

Let's look at the output!


Output

Most outputs are configured in the script parameter file, and may include:











1. If "report_filename" is specified in the script parameter file, a summary of point manipulations by each wrangler will be written to this file.
2. If "log_filename" is specified in the script parameter file, that will be created.
3. If "log_console" is specified in the script parameter file, logs will be written to the command prompt during execution.
4. A directory named in the out_dir parameter, containing a subdirectory for each input occurrence data file. Each subdirectory will be named by the value in the grouping field and contain a predicted distribution raster in ASCII format. Occurrence data that were modeled with Maxent will also contain Maxent outputs. A subset of species outputs from the above command are in the directory [heuchera_sdm](#).

Let's look at the output!

main ▾ [tutorials](#) / [data](#) / [input](#) / [heuchera_rfolk_sdm](#) / Go to file Add file ▾ ⋮

 zzeppozz updated output ✓ 4c67cb7 2 hours ago [History](#)

..

 bensoniella_oregona	updated output	2 hours ago
 conimitella_williamsii	updated output	2 hours ago
 elmera_racemosa	updated output	2 hours ago
 heuchera_abramsii	updated output	2 hours ago
 heuchera_acutifolia	updated output	2 hours ago
 heuchera_alba	updated output	2 hours ago
 heuchera_americana	updated output	2 hours ago
 heuchera_bracteata	updated output	2 hours ago
 heuchera_brevistaminea	updated output	2 hours ago
 /github.com/biotaphy/tutorials	updated output	2 hours ago

- **Species Distribution Models**
- **Fundamental vs. Realized Niche**
- **MaxEnt-predict potential geographic distribution (niche)**
- **Applications**
 - **Current, past, and future distributions**
 - **Phylogenetic Diversity (PD)**
 - **Polyploid nice vs diploids parents**
 - **Invasive**
- **Data Preparation**
 - **Input occurrence records, species list, ecoregions**
 - **SDMs for multiple taxa at the same time**

Any questions??

Please use the chat to write your question!